

# GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

MAY 27, 2010

## Council Tentatively Votes 5-2 For 0.4-cent Tax Rate Increase

by Thomas X. White

At its final budget worksession on Wednesday, May 19 the Greenbelt City Council took stock of the limited options available for adding and deleting items from the city manager's proposed Fiscal Year 2011 budget of \$24,934,200. At the end of the evening, a majority tentatively identified revenue increases of \$16,600 and expenditure decreases netting \$65,300 for a net savings of \$81,900. Also by a 5 to 2 vote councilmembers supported the city manager's proposed 0.4-cent tax rate increase, choosing instead to add the budget savings to reserves, concerned about future further shortfalls in revenues.

The decision followed nine scheduled budget worksessions after the budget was presented on April 12. Final formal actions on the budget and adoption will be taken at the June 7 regular council meeting.

The final worksession was

attended by all councilmembers and senior city staff from all departments. At the beginning of the meeting Mayor Judith Davis noted that the city departments had already made cuts to their proposed operations to either hold costs steady or reduce them from previous budget levels.

Her remarks were echoed by City Manager Michael McLaughlin, who expressed appreciation to the departments, recognizing the severity of fiscal constraints the city had faced and pitching in with ideas and lists of savings. McLaughlin reminded council that his proposed 0.4-cent increase in the tax rate (approximately \$80,000) was intended to make up the difference caused by the state calculation for the Home Owners Rebate.

### Changes Difficult

To start council discussion, Davis and Councilmember Leta Mach had each prepared proposed changes to the budget

based on information from earlier worksessions and their personal preferences. Each of these proposals garnered about \$55-56,000 in savings but differed in that the mayor's list found \$54,800 in savings and suggested the use of an additional \$25,200 to equal the \$80,000 needed to avoid the 0.4-cent tax rate increase. Mach's proposal suggested savings of \$56,900 which she proposed be added to the reserves. She signaled she was okay with the 0.4-cent tax rate increase. Her proposals for additional revenue included the already announced \$20,000 the county will provide for the School Resource Officer program, an expected \$20,000 in employee health insurance savings, a proposed reduction in council travel expenditures, projected \$5,500 in city financial audit costs, savings on the purchase of a new refuse/recycling

See **INCREASE**, page 6

## Erin Donn Is 2010 Craig Scholar; Fletcher Receives Recognition

by Doug Mangum

The David Craig Memorial Scholarship Fund (DCMSF) decided on its 2010 recipient Tuesday, May 11, faced with two students whose leadership and progression of responsibility made the selection committee's annual challenge to pick just one a near impossibility. The two finalists, Erin Patricia Donn, a granddaughter of two longstanding Greenbelt families and lifelong resident Jacob William (Boomer) Fletcher exude the Godly quality of "Love of Neighbor" and they both treasure the value of participating in vast communal activities and roles. Both have been enriching their community circles (ERHS and Greenbelt Faith) and their families due to their active involvement in various endeavors for what seems like forever.



Erin Donn

### Erin Donn

Erin Donn, granddaughter of Sonny and Barbara Osborne and Bertram and Marjory Donn, is the oldest of three children and has exemplified the role of big sister. She comes from a sports and recreation family background and her participation in soccer, lacrosse and cross-country are evidence of that. Donn enjoys the social and communal aspect of teams as well as the motivational push her teammates provide.

Donn served as committee head for the Blood Drive Committee, a position she states as having improved her leadership and organizational skills. She has surrounded herself with opportunities to help others. Donn appears to gravitate and rise to areas of service to those in need.



Jacob Fletcher

She is a founding member and current president of the Junior Sodality of St. Hugh of Grenoble parish here in Greenbelt. She organized a toiletry drive, made Easter gifts for children, knitted pieces for assembly into blankets for injured soldiers and helped teach religious education classes. Girl Scouts has been a mainstay

See **AWARD**, page 11

### Memorial Day Program Monday



At 10 a.m. on Monday, May 31 Greenbelt Legion Post #136 will hold its traditional Memorial Day service at Roosevelt Center, a ceremony that commemorates all that Memorial Day stands for.

All residents are invited to come and bring friends to give thanks and participate in this solemn remembrance honoring American heroes who sacrificed their blood and lives to preserve freedom.

Following the program all are invited to an open house gathering at the Legion Post at 6900 Greenbelt Road.

## City Has 73rd Birthday Activities Next Weekend

by Judy Bell

After 73 years, Greenbelt celebrates its birthday in June with a full weekend of activities from Friday, June 4 through Sunday, June 6. With something for everyone, the weekend's activities are sponsored by the city and local community groups.

Throughout the weekend the Community Center Art Gallery will feature the exhibition Fibonaccis, a sculptural installation by Alexandra Zealand. On Sunday, June 6 a reception for the sculptor will be held from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Art Gallery.

At the Greenbelt Museum historic house, 10-B Crescent Road, a new demonstration, "Victory Garden," will be on display. The museum will be open for tours from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, June 6 for a small fee. For additional information about museum programs visit [www.greenbeltmuseum.org](http://www.greenbeltmuseum.org)

seum.org or call 301-507-6582.

### Swim

The Aquatic and Fitness Center will be open Friday, June 4 from 6 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. The outdoor pool will be open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday and from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. There is a fee. Facility admission is restricted to Greenbelt residents, pass holders and their paying guests (three guests per person).

### Health Fair

The Springhill Lake Recreation Center will host a Community Information and Health Fair on Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. Health screenings, community resource information and activities for children of all ages will be available. Call 240-559-1083 or 301-565-4360 for information.

See **BIRTHDAY**, page 8

## ERHS Science-Technology Position Cut to 10 Months

by Virginia Beauchamp

"Why do we need a Science and Technology Coordinator?" The writer, Vijay Kowtha, president of the Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association) was reacting in a May 18 press release to the decision by the Prince George's County Board of Education to cut back to 10 months the previous 12-month position of a unique member of the ERHS faculty.

Jane Hemelt, who has served in this position since 1989, after five previous years as ERHS teacher of AP chemistry and a comprehensive research practicum in the field for Talented and Gifted (TAG) students, is responsible for some 950 students in the advanced science program at the school.

According to Kowtha, who is against the cut-back, Hemelt typically works from six a.m. till evening six days a week, including Saturdays, helping with such endeavors as grant writing, scheduling, counseling and developing and supervising the various science curricula. She also publishes a monthly newsletter.

During the summer recess Hemelt is particularly busy – for example encouraging students to participate in available programs, some unique to this area, such as internships in research programs at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Science Association (NSA) and the Baltimore Aquarium. One such student, Dayon Li of the

See **ERHS**, page 8

### What Goes On

#### Thursday, May 27

**7:30 p.m.**, GDC and Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Board Meetings, GHI Board Room

#### Friday, May 28

**9:30 a.m.**, Free Preschool Puppet Show with Mandy the Clown, Youth Center Gym

**Monday, May 31** – City and GHI Offices Closed in Observance of Memorial Day

**10 a.m.**, Traditional Memorial Day Service at Roosevelt Center

#### Tuesday, June 1

**7:30 p.m.**, Arts Advisory Board Meeting, Community Center

#### Wednesday, June 2

**7:30 p.m.**, Advisory Planning Board Meeting, Community Center, Room 114

**Friday, June 4 through Saturday, June 6** – Greenbelt Day Weekend

**Saturday, June 5** – Youth Sprint Triathlon, Ages 8 to 15, Youth Center. Pre-register by Thursday, June 3.



# Letters to the Editor

## Supports City Police

I would like to express my strong support for the Greenbelt Police. In contrast to some jurisdictions, Greenbelt officers are by-and-large well-managed, conscientious public servants. They must deal with a wide variety of people in neighborhoods that range from commonly tranquil to commonly dangerous. While enforcing the law and trying to protect us all from the crime that plagues much of the county, our officers – male and female, black, white, Latino and Asian – must gauge hazards and assess unfolding situations with incomplete information. Even as some crime stats decline, it’s a difficult, sometimes-dangerous job that requires constant discretion and judgment.

So when officers show initiative within the boundaries of professional conduct, it is unhelpful if they are publicly criticized for it. Sometimes innocent people are questioned or stopped in traffic when there is a lawful reason – not always apparent – to do so. In most stops, of course, no one is arrested; but law-breaking, unsafe driving or other misconduct may be deterred or disrupted. Or an officer learns the behavior is innocent. At a minimum, the fair concerns of a neighbor may be assuaged.

While I expect no one enjoys being stopped by police, this community would be a much more dangerous place if officers reacted to baseless criticism of their conduct by merely staying in their cars and responding only to calls for service. Thankfully, current Greenbelt officers are more professional than that.

It’s a sad fact of contemporary politics that many people assign racial motives to behavior by Greenbelt’s local government, our city council and our police, where none exist. Our elections come to mind.

I recall, too, the officer accused of “racial profiling” when he stopped a young black motorist at night for a traffic violation. Even though, as is common in the darkness, the race of the motorist could not have been seen prior to the stop.

Imagine if the vehicle fits the description in a breaking crime bulletin on the radio, unknown to the motorist who lodges the charge of racial profiling or thinks it. Who’s making the pejorative assumption then? Would we call that “reverse racist profiling”?

Driving While Blue? The new DWB in PG? While motorists and others may feel slighted or aggrieved in such scenarios, their conclusions are often based on misperceptions, annoyance or fear but not on full possession of the facts or a clear window into

the heart of an individual officer. For honest hardworking police of every gender and race, unfounded accusations and assumptions get very, very old.

Of course no one should ever be stopped solely on the basis of race. But neither should an officer be assumed or alleged to be “profiling” every time he or she stops a non-white person. The assumption is offensive, only they are not permitted to say so.

Certainly, if an officer does engage in misconduct or is discourteous, a complaint is warranted; Greenbelt Police have well-established mechanisms for that. But in assuming or ascribing nefarious racial motives to Greenbelt police who are doing far more than the minimum requirements of their job, down the road we run the risk of causing them to do only the minimum. Why? To avoid stinging public criticism that is unfair and unfounded.

If this dynamic becomes normal in Greenbelt, we will soon have a harder time attracting and retaining high quality, motivated officers willing to go the extra mile, and this community will greatly suffer. All of us, regardless of color.

Andy Carruthers

## One Rule for All

I was surprised by your analogy, Ms. Newcomer, of the incident of the “two white middle aged women” exchanging “money and a packet.” You referred to the surveillance cameras and then said “no police officers arrived to question the women.” Isn’t this statement misleading?

You failed to point out that the women were in an open market at the Green Man Festival: one was a vendor and the other a customer. Why would the “police arrive” to question them when it was an out-in-the-open exchange between vendor and customer? You said “If we are going to subject one group of residents to a standard of interrogation, we should subject everyone to it.” Are you suggesting that anyone buying anything in Greenbelt should be interrogated?

I attended Eleanor Roosevelt High School, a mixed race school. I teach at a mixed race school. I live in Greenbelt. I have just as many, if not more, black friends as white friends.

During my high school years I was stopped by the Greenbelt Police, so were my friends. However, I had a black family friend and his two children that came into the center of town for an activity two to three times a week. They were never stopped. Perhaps if you obey the laws, you don’t get stopped?

It’s just as important to point out that the Greenbelt Police are

doing their job. They are the peacekeepers. They are the ones that keep our neighborhoods safe. If someone reports what they believe is a suspicious activity, are you suggesting that the police not go because of race? Are you suggesting that if someone is speeding or driving erratically that the police not stop them because of their race?

My understanding is FHA does not lend in GHI. Most people are looking at the more attractive FHA financing right now. Does that make FHA racist?

Is GHI racist, because it doesn’t have FHA financing?

As far as Che Sayles, I know you supported him. But I didn’t vote for him because of public information available to me and if he were white and I found the same information out, I wouldn’t have voted for him then either. Does this make me racist?

In closing, thank you to the Greenbelt Police for checking up on every suspicious call you get, regardless of race, for checking on every suspicious activity you see and for keeping Greenbelt safe.

Amanda Williams

## About that Rule

Cynthia Newcomer’s letter of May 20 “One Rule for All” begins by expressing her concern over racism in our community but then offers some arguments that are troublesome. She cites a sales transaction observed by her between two white women, which she knows to have been not illegal and then states that if one group of residents is subjected to a standard of interrogation, we should subject everyone to it. This is a frightening logic that would invite police scrutiny any time we venture out into public. The goal should be to construct a community where all members of the public could go about their day with as little intrusion by authorities as possible.

At another point in the letter, she complains about anger directed at one of the African American candidates in the most recent city elections. Who was angry and how it was expressed needs explaining. But the candidate mentioned, Che Sayles, ran a campaign that simply did not meet this community’s standards.

See LETTERS, page 10

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OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

WEEK OF MAY 28

City Island

(PG-13)

Friday

\*5, 7:30, 9:45

Saturday

\*2:30, \*5, 7:30, 9:45

Sunday - Monday

\*2:30, \*5, 7:30

Tuesday - Thursday

\*5:15, 7:30

\*These shows at \$6.50

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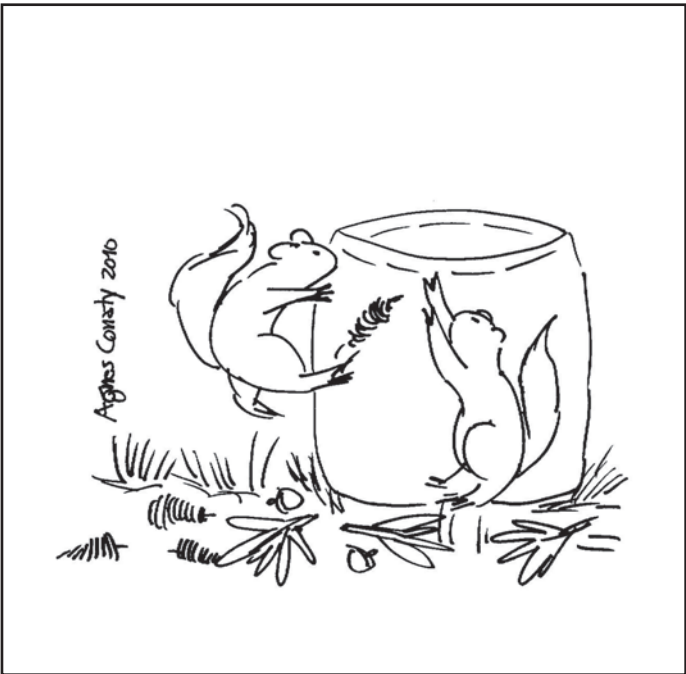
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www.pandgtheatres.com

• • • • •

## Grin Belt



“I am so excited about the upcoming World Cup games!”

## On Screen

### No Family Is an Island

Opening at the Old Greenbelt Theatre on Friday is “City Island.” Family secrets and intimate concerns ratchet up the tensions between prison guard Vince Rizzo (Andy Garcia), wife Joyce (Julianna Margulies) and grown son and daughter, with a third child in the wings. Billed as a comedy, with putative parallels to “Little Miss Sunshine,” the film finds its own way – so far, to a wide range of acclaim.

Directed by Raymond D. Felitta; also featured is Alan Arkin (who was in “Sunshine”).

Rated PG-13, for vulgarity, adult content and much smoking. Running time: 100 minutes.

– Eli Flam

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Carol Griffith, secretary; James Giese; Diane Oberg; and Mary Willis Clarke

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$35/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.



The family of Janet Parker will gather on May 29th to celebrate her 90th birthday. Janet became a resident of Greenbelt in 1944 when she moved into the city with her husband and first child. Janet is well known in Greenbelt for her activism as a Democrat and supporter of the original cooperative ideals of Greenbelt. *We love you Mother.*

Sharon, Marsha, Naomi, Mitchell and Shelley







## Memorial Held for Donald Graff

The memorial service for the late Donald L. Graff was held on Thursday, May 6 at 7:30 p.m. in front of the Mother & Child statue in Roosevelt Center.

A brief death notice from the Chicago Tribune (Chicago having been Mr. Graff's hometown) was read. John Ott, one of Mr. Graff's friends, handed out memorial ribbons made of duct tape, which



Participants hold lit candles at dusk at the memorial service for Donald Graff May 6. Shown left to right are Les Magnus, Chris Scherer, John Ott, unidentified attendees behind Scherer and Don Comis with his back to the camera.

## Jr. Ranger Program At Greenbelt Park

Applications for the 2010 Junior Ranger program are available at the Greenbelt Park Headquarters, Greenbelt Park Ranger Station and online at [www.nps.gov/gree](http://www.nps.gov/gree). Junior Rangers will participate in nature hikes and learn about animals, plants and water.

Pre-registration is required; applicants will be contacted if approved. This program is for children eight to 12 years old and is free.

The first session will be held on Monday, June 21 through Friday, June 25. Each session will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The deadline for the first session is Monday, June 7.

The second session will be held on Monday, June 28 through July 2. Deadline for the second session is Monday, June 14.

The park is located at 6565 Greenbelt Road; the website is [www.nps.gov/gree](http://www.nps.gov/gree); phone 301-344-3944.

## ACS Launches Phone Workshops

The American Cancer Society has launched a series of free telephone workshops for family, caregivers and friends to provide information and support related to caring for a loved one with cancer. Workshops feature tips and practical problem-solving techniques, as well as time for questions and discussion.

Topics include caregiving and pain relief on Tuesday, June 8 from 2 to 3:15 p.m. and Wednesday, June 16 from 7 to 8:15 p.m.

To register for the telephone workshops call the American Cancer Society at 800-966-3586 or visit [www.cancer.org/sacaregiverworkshops](http://www.cancer.org/sacaregiverworkshops). Information on other services is available at 800-227-2345 or [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

## Baha'i Offers Talk On Security June 5

To commemorate Peace Month, the Baha'i Community of Greenbelt will sponsor a talk and discussion by author Sovaida Ma'ani Ewing on "Building A Secure World – A Call to Action" on Saturday, June 5 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center.


Ma'ani Ewing is an international lawyer, a Baha'i and the author of "Collective Security Within Reach," which was published in 2008.

The talk will address international collective security be held in Room 114 at the Community Center. Simple refreshments will be served.

## Late Azaleas Bloom At U.S. Arboretum

Breathtaking blossoms cover a display of late-blooming azaleas, miniature in size but covered with full-sized flowers. This annual spring exhibit held in the National Bonsai and Penjing Museum of the National Arboretum through June 13 is free. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-474-4322


**Mass Schedule:**  
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.  
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.  
**Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.**  
**Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe**  
**Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd**

**BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
301-474-7573  
6301 Greenbelt Road  
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740  
[berwynpresbyterian.net](http://berwynpresbyterian.net)




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Worship : 11:00 am  
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Office Hours : M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

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**Mishkan Torah Congregation**  
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

Friday evening services 8:00 PM except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:30 PM

Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM  
Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 [www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)  
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## MVA Is Closed For Holiday Mon.

The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) will close its full-service and express offices on Friday, May 28 through Monday, May 31 in observance of the Memorial Day Holiday. All Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program (VEIP) stations will also be closed.

## Spanish Concert Free At National Gallery

At 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 6 the National Gallery of Art presents a free concert by Joaquín Achúcarro, pianist, performing music by Spanish composers. This event is made possible by support from the Embassy of Spain and will be held in the West Garden Court.

**Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church**  
3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community  
**May 30, 10 a.m.**  
Crown Thy Good, under God? by Rev. Diane Teichert, with Don Henderson, worship associate  
The words "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance are the jumping off point for this Memorial Day sermon for which Rev. Teichert won the U.U. Association's Skinner (Social Justice) Sermon Award.

**Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church**  
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt  
Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors  
[www.greenbeltumc.org](http://www.greenbeltumc.org) 301-474-9410  
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor



Sunday School 10:00am      Worship Service 10:00am  
Prayer Meeting Sun. 9:45 am

**St. George's Episcopal Church**  
Join us around a table where all are welcome!



Services  
• Sundays  
8 a.m. simple, quiet service (no music)  
10 a.m. main service  
(music includes a mixture of acoustic guitar, piano and organ music)

• Wednesdays  
7 p.m. service with healing prayers (no music)

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)  
301-262-3285 | [rector@stgeo.org](mailto:rector@stgeo.org) | [www.stgeo.org](http://www.stgeo.org)

**Greenbelt Community Church**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings  
[www.greenbeltucc.org](http://www.greenbeltucc.org)  
Sunday Worship  
10:15 a.m.  
Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

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101 Greenhill Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20770 – (301) 474-4212  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)

Welcome!

Sunday 9:45 am      Sunday School  
Sunday 11:00 am      Worship Service  
Wednesday 7:00 pm      Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

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**Bible Study & Worship**

9:30 "Good Morning! Coffee and Snacks  
10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Worship  
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**Catholic Community of Greenbelt**

SUNDAY MASS, 10:00 AM  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING

SERVE BREAKFAST  
AT S.O.M.E.  
Sunday, May 30  
Meet at St. Hugh's School  
Parking Lot, 6:00 AM







INCREASE continued from page 1

vehicle and suggested savings of \$1,600 from the Contributions Groups account.

On the minus side, Mach noted the \$3,400 loss of revenue due to no Greenbelt First Night celebration, a \$10,000 increase in expenditures to restore the annual contribution made to the West Lanham and Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Departments and a \$500 contribution by the city to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) Street Smart pedestrian safety program. Most items on her list had been identified by city staff after McLaughlin’s introduction of the proposed budget.

However Mach recommended disposition of the identified savings into city reserve funds.

Davis’ budget proposal was similar to Mach’s except that her list of changes had as its stated goal the elimination of the 0.4 cent tax increase and the use of the savings plus additional reserves to maintain the Homeowners Tax Rebate (credit). In addition to savings listed by Mach, she showed savings of \$2,000 by further decreases in the hours of operation of the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center (AF Center) and a \$1,000 decrease in the Babe Ruth Baseball League contribution no longer needed. Davis’ list also included the additional \$10,000 contribution for the neighboring volunteer fire departments and the loss of \$3,400 due to no First Night program. She suggested that the MWCOG Street Smart Program receive \$1,000. Thus, Davis signaled early in the worksession that she favored the use of identified savings and some reserves to eliminate the .4 cent tax increase proposed by the McLaughlin.

At this point, Davis also made clear she preferred that a proposed contribution to the Greenbelt Farmers Market of \$2,000 be reduced to \$1,500 and be considered a one-time grant. She did not think the Farmers Market should be included as a “Contribution Group.”

Other Suggestions

Other members of council did not have written proposals for modifications to the budget. Councilmember Edward Putens pushed his proposal to increase city revenue from Empirian Village apartment fees. Based on information discussed at the Planning & Community Department Budget Worksession on April 28 he believes the city should consider increasing apartment licensing fees for rental units.

City staff at the April work-session had provided information that Greenbelt fees are below those of neighboring jurisdictions and could be raised about \$25 per unit, raising about \$700,000 in additional revenue. Putens also suggested the city could establish a rebate as part of the licensing fee to reward those apartment managements that keep their properties in compliance with the city code and penalize those properties that fail to maintain their properties and require increased inspection and enforcement activities by city staff.

Planning and Community Development Director Celia Craze advised council that fees charged should reflect the level of resources applied by the city to service the properties. She felt the current Greenbelt fee schedule,

Proposed Changes to City Manager's Budget Tentatively Approved by Council, May 19	
ITEM	AMOUNT
PROPOSED FY 2011 REVENUES	\$ 25,249,200
Higher School Resource Officer Grant from County	20,000
Eliminate revenue from Greenbelt New Year Event	-3,400
TOTAL REVENUES	25,265,800
PROPOSED FY 2011 EXPENDITURES	24,934,200
Transfer to Fund Balance (Achieve 10% Goal)	315,000
SUBTOTAL	25,249,200
Proposed changes identified at 5/19/10 work session	
Health Insurance Increase went from 2.1% to 0%	-20,000
Savings from lower financial audit cost	-5,500
Reduce Council Membership & Training by 10%	-1,700
Reduce Replacement Fund Transfer (truck savings)	-20,000
Re-estimate of savings for earlier closing hours for Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center	-2,000
Restore annual contribution to West Lanham and Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Departments	10,000
Street Smart Campaign contribution to COG	500
One Time Grant to Greenbelt Farmers Market	1,500
Changes to Contribution Groups:	-3,100
\$2000 reduction to Boys & Girls Club (\$18,000)	
\$100 reduction to Greenbelt Senior Baseball (\$900)	
2 month delay (9/1/2010) in filling Director of Recreation vacancy	-25,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	25,183,900
Difference (Revenues – Expenditures)	81,900

while lower than that of other jurisdictions, reflects the level of resources put forth by the city.

Craze also questioned the fair operation of a “rebate” program based upon compliance. She offered to evaluate the proposals made by Putens but added that would likely take place after the time of the budget approval. There seemed to be council agreement to accept Craze’s offer to evaluate the licensing fees schedule, the rebate program suggested by Putens and her suggestion for considering a six-month rather than one-year license term. That proposal may give the city more leverage in dealing with compliance problems

Robert’s Response

Next, Councilmember Rodney Roberts was asked if he had any suggestions for changes to the budget. His response was that council seems to be in the same old mode of raising taxes and fees and there is a need to scale back on city expenditures. When pressed he suggested that funds for council travel should be eliminated, saving \$15,000. Council colleagues response was swift, several echoing the theme that their travel has resulted in useful suggestions for city programs and, in some cases, actually bringing state and federal funds to Greenbelt.

Councilmembers cited, as an example, conversations they were able to have at Maryland Municipal League conventions in Ocean City with then Governor Parris Glendening that resulted in state and federal funding for the purchase of parcel 1 between the Greenbelt Homes Inc. property and the Baltimore Parkway.

Roberts responded that council did not have to go to Ocean City to negotiate for assistance and that the acquisition of parcel 1 also resulted from concerted citizen action at the time to save it from development. Roberts was also charged with lacking “imagination,” to which he responded, “I have my own imagination.” The Mayor summed it up: “Your imagination is stuck in the 1800s.”

First Night

Councilmember Konrad Herling argued for retaining the Greenbelt First Night celebration

at a cost of \$10,000. This provoked a conversation regarding the lack of interest by volunteers in the program that actually had its genesis as practically an all volunteer effort but has evolved into a program that is essentially planned and operated by city staff. Assistant Recreation Operations Director Joe McNeal related how the core of the volunteers began to drop out following the millennium.

In informal straw voting on Herling’s request, only Roberts supported keeping the First Night celebration in the budget. He repeated his proposal to cut travel costs for council and use the funds to keep the First Night event and to keep the postal unit open at the Municipal building. The rest of council was satisfied to withdraw support for the First Night and provide a period for the interested volunteer groups to reorganize. Roberts received no support for his proposal to keep the postal unit open, with other councilmembers expressing the view that it was not really a city function and its utilization was low. Most agreed that the best solution for a postal unit in the Roosevelt Center vicinity would be its location in one of the commercial establishments.

Recreation Director

It was then Councilmember Emmett Jordan’s turn to make proposals and he commented that the city does not have a good handle on commercial retail vacancies and other economic uncertainties. He suggested that the manager should freeze the recruitment process for filling the director of Recreation for at least six months, giving the city some time to look at the revenue picture for FY11.

McLaughlin expressed concern with such a proposal. He felt it could have an impact on the work load for the two assistant directors. McNeal agreed. He said that holding off filling the position would be shortsighted and that the department deserved good leadership. He also said that he would be a candidate for the position. There was a question as to how long it would actually take to fill the vacant director’s position and the manager advised that he would initiate the

# Festival Notes

**Volunteers Needed**


The Labor Day Festival Committee is seeking volunteers to help with the 2010 Festival. The next committee meeting is Tuesday, June 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center. Email [laborday@greenbelt.com](mailto:laborday@greenbelt.com) for more information.

**Miss Greenbelt**

Miss Greenbelt 2009 Amber Youhouse is registered in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure that will take place Saturday, June 5. The team is “Miss Greenbelt for the Cure” and is the fundraiser Youhouse chose to fulfill her Miss Greenbelt obligations. Donations can be made by going online to [www.globalrace.info-komen/org](http://www.globalrace.info-komen/org) and searching for either “Miss Greenbelt for the Cure” or “Amber Youhouse.”

**Entertainment**

There will be another Greenbelt Idols competition this year. Contestants will perform on Friday, September 3. For more information contact [greenbeltidols@yahoo.com](mailto:greenbeltidols@yahoo.com). There is a \$500



cash prize to the winner. Contestants must be at least 16 years old.

**Shuttle**

The committee is looking for shuttle drivers. Shuttles run throughout the festival weekend. Email [laborday@greenbelt.com](mailto:laborday@greenbelt.com) to volunteer.

**Luncheon on the Lawn**

The Greenbelt Community Church will host its annual Luncheon on the Lawn immediately following the Parade on September 6. The church is located at Hillside and Crescent Roads.

**Information Day**

Saturday, September 4 is Information Day. The tables will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Roosevelt Center. Information tables do not allow sales or any financial transactions. Any group interested in having an information table should email the festival committee at [laborday@greenbelt.com](mailto:laborday@greenbelt.com). Send a URL to have the group’s website linked to the Festival website. If registered by July 31 the organization will be listed in the News Review pull-out.

recruitment process following the budget adoption and that it would likely take at least three months. In the final analysis, a period of two months lapse time was added to the suggestions (that is move the hire date for the position to September 1) and that provided a deduction of \$25,000 from the proposed budget’s expenditures.

**Keep Increase**

Because council does not make formal decisions at worksessions, an informal straw vote was taken whether councilmembers, in light of the agreed \$81,900 identified as savings, would want those funds used to eliminate the Manager’s proposed 0.4-cent tax increase or add those funds to the reserves. In an initial round, four members of council indicated they were okay with the 0.4-cent tax increase with Mach and Jordan stressing the uncertainties facing the city’s fiscal health and the need to be prepared for possibly a worse budget situation in 2012. Three members, Davis, Herling and Roberts, indicated that their preference was to use the identified savings

to eliminate the Manager’s proposed tax increase.

Following that round, Herling indicated he would change his preference to keep the proposed increase. With that change in preference five members favored the increase. Only Davis and Roberts opted for no increase in the tax rate this year. When that result was obvious, Davis left her chair and rushed to embrace Roberts, saying this was one of the rare occasions where they agreed.

As is customary at the final budget worksession, McLaughlin expressed appreciation for the hard work and assistance he received from the city staff in developing of the proposed budget and council’s efforts through the several worksessions in reviewing the budget. He closed by characterizing the evening’s meeting as one of the best policy discussions by council in a long time.

A final Public Hearing on the budget was held at the May 24 council meeting. Council is scheduled to adopt the FY11 city budget at its June 7 meeting.

There is an urgent need!

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Tuesday, June 1, 1 to 6 p.m.,  
I.U.E.C. Local 10, Main Building,  
9600 Martin Luther King Blvd., Lanham

Saturday, June 5, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.,  
Wells Ice Rink & Pool, 5200 Paint Branch  
Parkway, College Park

Tuesday, June 29, 2 to 8 p.m.,  
Greenbelt Municipal Building,  
25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt

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Fresh Shurfine Homestyle Roasting Chicken	<b>99¢</b> <sub>lb.</sub>	Fresh Value Pack 85% Extra LEan Ground Beef	<b>\$2<sup>69</sup></b> <sub>lb.</sub>
		Oscar Mayer All Meat Wieners Assorted 1 lb.	<b>BUY ONE GET ONE FREE</b>
		Fresh Value Pack Boneless Pork Sirloin Chops & Roasts	<b>\$2<sup>49</sup></b> <sub>lb.</sub>
		Fresh Lean Beef Boneless Top Round London Broil	<b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b> <sub>lb.</sub>
		Prima Porta Italian Sausage	<b>\$1<sup>89</sup></b> <sub>lb.</sub>

Dairy		Deli		Frozen	
Yoplait Assorted Yogurts 4-6 oz.	<b>50¢</b>	Minute Maid Orange Juice Assorted 64 oz.	<b>\$2<sup>50</sup></b>	Deli Gourmet Oven Browned Turkey Breast	<b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b> <sub>lb.</sub>
Shurfine IWS American Cheese White/Yellow 16 oz.	<b>\$2<sup>00</sup></b>	Shurfine Cream Cheese Original/Light 8 oz. brick	<b>99¢</b>	Deli Gourmet Roast Beef	<b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> <sub>lb.</sub>
Health & Beauty	Seafood	Co-op Supermarket Will Be OPEN Memorial Day 10am til 6pm Pharmacy Will Be Closed		Natural & Gourmet	Bakery
Eagle Value Pack Tooth Brushes 3 pk.	Seabest Frozen Pollock Fillets			Green’s Ice Cream Assorted 1.5-1.75 qt.	Pictsweet Assorted Vegetables 8-16 oz.
Western Family Multi-Purpose Contact Solution 12 oz.	Baltimore Crab Cakes 2.5 oz.			Banquet Family Size Entrees Assorted 25-28 oz.	Ellio’s Large Pizza Assorted 17-21 oz.
				Medford Farm’s Savory Crackers Assorted 5.3 oz.	Fresh Store Baked Rye or Pumper-Nickel Bread loaf
				Twinings Cold Brew Tea Assorted 20 pk.	Fresh Store Baked Dutch Apple Pie 8 inch

Grocery Bargains			
Lipton/Knorr Assorted Noodles & Sauce or Rice & Sauce 4-7 oz.	<b>\$1<sup>00</sup></b>	Maxwell House Original Ground Coffee Select Varieties 10-11 oz.	<b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b>
JIF Peanut Butter Assorted 17-18 oz.	<b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b>	Kraft Macaroni & Cheese Assorted 5-7 oz.	<b>88¢</b>
Chicken of the Sea Chunk Light Tuna 5 oz.	<b>80¢</b>	General Mills Multi Grain Cheerios 9 oz.	<b>BUY ONE GET ONE FREE</b>
Wisk Value Size 2X Liquid Laundry Detergent Asst. 100 oz.	<b>\$9<sup>99</sup></b>	Hunt’s Family Size Canned Tomatoes Asst. 28 oz.	<b>\$1<sup>00</sup></b>
		Campbell’s Original Soup Chicken Noodle/Tomato 10.75 oz.	<b>50¢</b>
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# Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or [http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly\\_report.pdf](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf). Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

**Attempted Murder**  
May 15, 10:31 p.m., Breezewood Court at Springhill Lane. Four males approached some people and demanded their property. As one person tried to flee, a handgun was fired at his vehicle, but did not hit him.

**Robberies**  
May 15, 8:52 a.m., 6200 block Breezewood Court. A man approached a person and demanded property. The victim escaped by running away from the robber.

May 15, 3:00 p.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane. A person was approached by two males who displayed a handgun and demanded the person's property.

May 15, 3:40 p.m., 5700 block Greenbelt Metro Drive. A person was approached by three men who struck the victim with a hammer and stole his property.

**Reckless Endangerment**  
May 17, 10:13 p.m., 6200 block Breezewood Court. Unknown suspects fired several gun shots in the area of an apartment building. No one was injured.

**False Report**  
April 24, 2:26 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court. An alleged shooting was determined to be a false report when it was found that the gunshot wound to a person's hand was self-inflicted.

**DUI/DWI**  
May 16, 6100 block Springhill Terrace. A 27-year-old resident male was arrested and charged with multiple alcohol-related violations, among other charges, after a traffic accident. He was released on citations pending trial.

May 17, 12:51 a.m., Greenbelt Road at Walker Drive. A 45-year-old female resident was arrested and charged with multiple alcohol-related violations after a traffic accident. She was released on citations pending trial.

**Drug Arrest**  
May 15, 12:03 a.m., 6400 block Capitol Drive. A 22-year-old nonresident male was arrested and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. He was released on citation pending trial.

**Burglaries**  
May 17, 8:40 a.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane. A vacuum, cable modem, DVD player, cable

box, two laptops and video game systems were taken.

May 17, 10:40 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court. A video game system was taken.

May 17, 1:28 p.m., 9000 block Breezewood Terrace. A video game system, laptop, camera, printer and loose change were taken.

May 17, 2:45 p.m., 6900 block Hanover Parkway. A laptop, jewelry, loose change, shotgun and a rifle were taken.

May 17, 5:05 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane. A television, DVDs and two laptops were taken.

May 19, 4:25 p.m., 6000 block Springhill Drive. A television, computer monitor and two cameras were taken.

May 19, 4:49 p.m., 6000 block Cherrywood Court. An MP3 player, camera and two sewing machines were taken.

May 19, 6:05 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Court. A television, laptop and currency were taken.

**Trespassing**  
May 15, 4:15 p.m., Greenway Shopping Center. A 40-year-old nonresident male was arrested and charged with trespassing on private property. He was released on citation pending trial.

**Vandalism**  
May 15, 12:10 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive. A rock was thrown through a window.

**Vehicle Crime**  
One vehicle was reported stolen, a blue 1993 Lincoln Continental with VA tags taken May 17 from the 9200 block Edmonston Road.

A blue 2000 Toyota Sienna reported stolen through Prince George's County Police was recovered May 14 in the 9000 block Breezewood Terrace with no arrests made.

Seven reports of thefts from vehicles were received: 8900 block Edmonston Road (front MD tag), 5700 block Greenbelt Metro Drive (rear MD tag), 6000 block Greenbelt Road (GPS unit), 7500 block Greenway Center Drive (GPS unit, stereo system, subwoofer and a pair of sneakers), 6000 block Springhill Drive (MD temporary tag), 7800 block Goodluck Road (purse), 7700 block Hanover Parkway (CDs).

## BIRTHDAY continued from page 1

**Youth Sprint Triathlon**  
At 10 a.m. Saturday morning, athletes ages 8 to 15 can participate in a triathlon sponsored by the Recreation Department. The event will begin with a 40-meter swim in the outdoor pool, followed by a 1.5-mile marked-off road bike ride (helmet required) and conclude with a one-mile run around Greenbelt Lake. There is a registration fee (reduced for registering early). Call or visit the Youth Center to register, 301-397-2200.

**Baseball**  
Join the crowd to cheer on a favorite local team. On Friday at 6 p.m., Orioles play the Giants at Braden Field #2. McDonald Field hosts the Indians and Tigers at 6 p.m. and at 8 p.m. the Parents vs Coaches game takes place at Braden Field #2.

The Little League All-star Game, between the American League and the National League, will take place at 1 p.m. on Sunday at McDonald Field.

**Discussion**  
Memory and the Brain, featuring Carol Clatterbuck from Holy Cross Hospital, will be held on Saturday 1 to 3 p.m. in the Community Center, Room 201. This upbeat session will use hands-on

activities to learn about the brain, its various lobes and why each is relevant to memory.

**Artful Afternoon**  
Celebrate Peace Month and Greenbelt's 73rd anniversary on Sunday, June 6 from 1 to 3 p.m. Hands-on activities will include transforming plastic bags into whimsical flowers. Participants are asked to bring clean, dry colorful plastic bags.

**Artists' Studios**  
Meet the Community Center's nine Artists in Residence working in ceramics, fiber arts, painting, collage and more on Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Center.

**Concert**  
The Greenbelt Concert Band will round out the weekend when they perform a rousing tribute to Greenbelt in the Community Center gym on Sunday. This free concert begins at 3 p.m.

**More Info**  
Brochures concerning weekend activities can be found at the Community Center, the Youth Center and the Municipal Building, as well as online at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov).

For more information about weekend festivities call 301-397-2200. The weather hotline number is 301-474-0646.

## ERHS continued from page 1

class of 2007, won the Grand Prize at the International Science Fair following his work in the previous summer at NIH based on protocols he had learned in his genetics class at ERHS.

Hemelt also writes grants, among them those involving 52 paid summer internships for students at NIH since 2000. Nor does she overlook teacher development – for example arranging teacher workshops in physics, chemistry, biology and a research practicum.

In 1991 at ERHS she hosted the annual student conference of the National Consortium for Specialized Secondary Schools for Math, Science, and Technology and in 2009 the professional conference for the organization.

**Countywide**  
Hemelt's position is not unique in Prince George's County, though hers is the oldest of three. Two other high schools with a similar dedication to high-level science programs are Oxon Hill High School and Charles H. Flowers

High School in Springdale. Both similarly have science and technology coordinators, who – like Hemelt – found out accidentally that their annual positions had been cut to 10 months.

In Hemelt's case, however, since she nears retirement in two years, this downgrade of her position is particularly punitive, since retirement income is based on the retiree's salaries of the final two years of a career.

Besides Kowtha, Christine Price, Outreach Committee chair for the PTSA and an electrical engineer, is particularly distressed by this development at the school, where her son has completed his sophomore year. She and Kowtha met with this reporter to discuss the ramifications of this reduction in the work-year of Hemelt's position.

Kowtha is a scientist. Trained as a biologist and an engineer, he is employed at the Naval Research Laboratory. He is the father of a daughter, who is in 11th grade at ERHS.

## Bowie Celebrates Bicycle Racing Day

On Saturday, May 29 Old Town Bowie will celebrate Bicycle Motorcross Racing Day at A & M Cycle from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with information about the BMX racing track. Old Town Bowie offers many other attractions.

Old Town Bowie Welcome Center is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Rome at Riversdale

Prepare to experience Rome at Riversdale on Saturday, June 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, June 6 from noon to 4 p.m. Watch ancient battle reenactments, view a catapult demonstration, take part in children's activities and more. There is a fee. For more information call 301-864-4020 or email at [riversdale@pgparks.com](mailto:riversdale@pgparks.com).



### Congratulations to:

– Ryan McLaughlin from Washington University in St. Louis and Marina McFarland from Wagner College on Staten Island, N.Y. Both graduates are grandchildren of Greenbelt pioneer Kathleen McFarland.

– Yonique McCalla, who graduated from the University of Maryland College Park on May 21 with a bachelor's degree in criminology. While at the University of Maryland, Yonique was a member of the Honor Society and the Multi-Ethnic Student Education Academic Excellence Society. She is the daughter of Delroy and Hope McCalla of Landon Court in Greenbelt East.

– The seven ERHS students who have been announced as winners in 2010 National Achievement and National Merit Scholarship Programs – Reese Fuller, Fayola Fears, Benjamin Shaibu and Blossom Tewelde, earning \$2,500 National Achievement Scholarships; Thomas Senecal a National Merit Mary E. Beyerle corporate scholarship; and Laura Jones and Jeffrey Wang, with National Merit University of Maryland scholarships.

– Erin Donn, who was named the 2010 David Craig Memorial Scholar and Jacob "Boomer" Fletcher who was awarded a one-time grant by the DCMSF.

– Peter Mills, sixth-grade science teacher at Robert Goddard French Immersion School in Seabrook, who has been selected for the 2010 Christa McAuliffe Outstanding Teacher Award and was honored at the annual school system recognition dinner at Martin's Crosswinds yesterday.

A very happy 90th birthday to Janet Parker, who will celebrate the milestone with a family gathering on May 29. Parker has been an active Greenbelt resident for more than 60 years.

Kudos to the Educational Systems Federal Credit Union (ESFCU), headquartered in Greenbelt, for raising \$2,465 for the Children's Miracle Network. The donations were a combination of funds from the annual Credit Union Cherry Blossom Ten Mile Run and the "Bill Goes Pink" campaign in which ESFCU System Administrator William Brooks, Jr. dyed his hair bubblegum pink from March 1 through April 30 for the cause.

Happy Birthday to Elizabeth Maffay, who celebrated with a gathering of friends and family at Blob's Park on May 23. Maffay was a long time resident of GHI and Woodland Hills and a former city councilmember. She is now living at Independence Court in Hyattsville and welcomes visits from friends.

Send us your reports of new babies, awards, honors, etc. to share with our readers. We'd especially like to hear more from our neighbors in Greenbelt East and Greenbelt West (Springhill Lake/Empirian Village). To send information for "Our Neighbors" email us at [newsreview@greenbelt.com](mailto:newsreview@greenbelt.com) or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

– Kathleen McFarland



The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.

## Dress for Safety

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**FOUND** – Women’s glasses in News Review office. Call 301-474-4131.

**NOTICES**

90-HR childcare course, Greenbelt Children’s Center. M/W, 6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. and Saturdays 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Starts June 14. \$450 includes textbook. Deborah Wood, 301-576-3423.

**REAL ESTATE – RENTAL**

**GREENBELT** – Renting near NASA, in-law apartment. 3BR, 1 bath, kitchen, recreation room, \$200s per room or rent entire apartment. 301-552-3354

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Properties for sale:

Hyattsville: Single Family, 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath- REDUCED \$165K

Riverdale: 4 Bed/ 2 Bath, Single Family, double lot- reduced\$155 K

Greenbelt: 8J Laurel Hill, GHI, 1 bed/ 1 bath- \$89,900

Greenbelt: 14E Laurel Hill, GHI, 2 bed frame, Total Renovation-reduced \$135 K

Greenbelt: 39F Ridge Rd., GHI, 3 bed block w/ addition- \$199,000

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**YARD SALE**

**YARD SALE** – 47B Ridge, 7 a.m.- 12 p.m. Many miscellaneous items.

**TRASH TO TREASURE** – Have a yard sale and count the benefits!

**RATES**

**CLASSIFIED:** \$3.00 minimum for ten words. 15¢ for each additional word. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 10 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 7 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

**BOXED:** \$8.10 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$12.15). Deadline 10 p.m. Tuesday.

**NEEDED:** Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

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LETTERS continued from page 2

Frequent, recorded phone calls loaded with platitudes and very little substance were followed by a live phone call wherein he solicited statements in a bald attempt to determine the issues that mattered to voters. At no point did I hear the solutions he might offer to our community's problems. Newcomer wonders in her letter if a white candidate from Old Greenbelt would have been treated the same way. If she is referring to the collective judgment of the voters on election day, my answer is: I hope so.

To most of us, racism is something that happens to others. Cynthia Newcomer took the time to express her view on this topic at length. More of us should do that.

John Abell

It's All Good

My first visit to a GHI Annual Membership Meeting, last week on May 19 really exhilarated and deflated me. The 200 plus concerned residents, the eloquent speeches of the Board and Committee candidates, the free plants, door prizes, crying infants, schmoozing residents all heartened me. Capable Greenbelters were grappling with issues that touched my life!

But the half-hour debate on the phrasing of a motion to change a bylaw before it could be voted on gave me a headache. The debaters waxed Talmudic, adduced arguments truly labyrinthine! Solomon couldn't sort this problem out, I thought. (Not really. I thought that was what I should have thought, later.) However, I gradually realized, the medieval hair-splitting was conducted with great intelligence, good humor and earnestness. And that this patient teasing out of the meaning of the (by)law was very appealing, even necessary!

As I scanned the pamphlet distributed by Anna Socrates, who conducted the GHI Harbingers of Spring Haiku Contest, my headache melted away when I read Elaine D. Jones' co-winning entry:

Peer into whiteout.  
Empty your mind of "to do."  
Savor the snow gift.

Jim Link

Advises Raise Rates, Don't Cut Hours

Regarding the article "Recreation Budget Proposes Cuts in Pool Hours . . .," I agree with Clement Lau that the pool should not close an hour earlier in order to comply with the city manager's proposed call for a 3 percent cut in spending on recreation and parks from the Fiscal Year 2010 budget.

I believe the council should consider raising membership/usage fees slightly. Right now, the annual fees are a steal: a resident family pays \$461, seniors \$114, adults \$224.

As a nighttime user, a cut in hours would be problematic for me and swimmers who don't take classes. Monday - Thursday, evening classes begin at 6 pm and end at 9 pm. These classes tie up the non-lane area of the pool. Thus, the only time swimmers can use the whole pool is from 9 to 10:15 p.m.

Marian Klett

Missing Robin Nest Is A Hunting Ridge Loss

To the person at Hunting Ridge condos who removed the nest with four baby robins in it – shame on you!

They weren't hurting anything. They didn't even leave droppings on the ground. I enjoyed watching them grow until someone so thoughtlessly removed them. I am very sad now every time I walk past where they used to be. Their mother is sad too, wondering where her babies are. Shame on you!

I have lived in Greenbelt for 50 years. Greenbelt is all about nature and wildlife, in case you didn't know.

Tammy M. Tropp

**Editor's Note:** according to Wikipedia, the American Robin historically was killed for its meat but it is now protected throughout its range in the United States by the Migratory Bird Act.

Keep Camp Cabaret "Pilot Light" On

On May 20 the News Review reported "There was relatively little dispute about McLaughlin's proposal to eliminate the city's support of the New Year celebration. Even Larry Hilliard, one of the program's founders, did not object, although he urged maintaining other arts programs."

According to the three non-staff, non-council residents who attended the May 12 worksession here's what Hilliard actually said paraphrased by our collective memory.

"Maintain Camp Cabaret (revenue lumped in #455199 Miscellaneous Camps on page 187) or programs that build off of Creative Kids and the mentorship of Chris Cherry, if you can. They are the heart of performing arts in the city."

Hilliard pointed to three careers in the arts that started in Greenbelt and the New Deal Café getting a shot in the arm from "Guys in Ties" that allowed them to survive their early years in the Community Center.

Hilliard also read (verbatim) from his email sent by the Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC), conforming GAC's availability as a youth venue on December 31, 2010.

Other businesses in Roosevelt Center may also be available.

Barbara Simon also spoke in support of keeping a New Year's program for youth, especially one that is produced by the youth themselves.

Prior to Greenbelt New Year 2009 camp counselors produced the GAC show, although without Cherry. In GNY2010, many of the same teens were looking forward to this "production time" together when they get back into town but Camp Cabaret has been called off.

Teen Education Network Early Twenties too – a new recognition group in Greenbelt – may help create the momentum to re-invent this volunteer tradition – but a restored Camp Cabaret would do even more to "Inspire Domestic Festivity."

The timing of Camp Cabaret just before New Year is important. Young artists may wish to gather this time of year for a common theater experience that they themselves choose to create and lead.

Camp Cabaret is both a low production cost budget item and a revenue producing aspect of the New Year Program. It would be a mistake to cancel this program outright.

Preserving Camp Cabaret giving youth creative input will enable this 12-year tradition to continue with "youth serving youth."

Larry Hilliard,  
Volunteer Chair;  
Barbara Simon,  
Volunteer Crafts; and  
Clement Lau,  
Volunteer Calligraphy,  
GNY'97

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AWARD continued from page 1

in her life and where she has participated in a bevy of community service projects. One of note was the collection of donations to purchase 200 boxes of Girl Scout cookies to donate to the USO station at BWI airport. Donn is working toward her Gold Award (the highest honor earned by a Girl Scout) which requires a minimum of 120 hours to complete.

The Gold Award project must be one of sustainable benefit to the community. She is currently collecting children’s books for this task. The list of selfless acts by this endearing, compassionate young woman goes on and on. I have seen Donn’s ability to connect with people of all ages and all backgrounds on numerous occasions – she sets a high standard for her siblings, her fellow scouts, especially the younger girls and fellow students, friends and neighbors. Donn personifies volunteerism and leadership by the example of “Let us not be sayers of the word, but doers of the word.”

Donn will attend the University of Maryland in College Park.

Jacob Fletcher

Boomer Fletcher is the youngest child of three and has excelled in his roles as captain and catcher for his school’s baseball team. He is president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He is in JROTC where his positions include Saber Team member, Flight Commander, Honor Guard Drill Team member, Senior Enlisted Advisor, Honor Guard Commander, Deputy Operations Commander and Vice Wing Commander. He is also a member of Greenbelt’s Youth Advisory Committee and a life guard at the Aquatic and Fitness Center. As his coach, I have known Boomer since coaching his 11 and under Boys & Girls Club basketball team and have found him to be a fun-loving, hard-practicing kid. Something from his application that I did not know was shared by a fellow neighbor and school teacher and it speaks volumes about who he has become.

The following is an excerpt: “Recently the principal of our school asked me if I could ask one of my former students to speak to teachers during the first week back at school. My first thought was to ask Jacob. Of course, he agreed even though it was summer and would require time and effort to write a short speech. Jacob’s speech was inspirational. Many teachers were moved to tears. Jacob spoke of the people and events that motivated him to excel in school. He spoke of two groups of people: his teachers and his parents. He spoke about his own dedication

to doing well: ‘I can tell you most of my friends had the same opportunities I had and the reason I stand here today is because of the choices I made. I stayed focused and developed goals for the things that I wanted.’” This defines Jacob as both a student and a teenager. Jacob set a goal of achieving straight As and has met and exceeded that goal.

Fletcher will attend the University of Delaware.

Candidates

The entire field of candidates included nine young Greenbelters with an amazing array of talents – well-rounded, determined, selfless, engaged, all of them – young people with big-picture visions and open-minded resolve. DCMSF bylaws only allow choosing one, making this year’s choice the most difficult it has had to make in recent memory.

The 2010 DCMSF scholarship award was to Erin Donn. The committee was also moved to make a special one-time gift of \$1,000 to Jacob “Boomer” Fletcher to help with his educational financial obligations.

Donn will receive the first allotment of the four-year, \$2,500 per year award on Saturday, June 5 at 5 p.m. during the DCMSF second annual recipients reunion, which will be held in Roosevelt Center as part of the Greenbelt Day weekend celebration.

Donations

To share in this valuable community outreach send tax deductible contributions to the DCMSF at P.O. Box 761, Greenbelt, MD 20768.

Doug Mangum is the president of the David Craig Memorial Scholarship Fund..

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# ACE Winners Honored, Council Hears Wrap-up

by Thomas X. White

With the first Greenbelt City Council meeting in May traditionally devoted to the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) Student Awards and legislative wrap-ups from Greenbelt’s representatives in Annapolis, only a few business items were included on the May 10 council agenda. ACE hosted its 16th annual student awards program with a reception at the city offices at 7:30 p.m. and as the first item on the council agenda just after 8 p.m. The awards ceremonies were conducted by Jon Gardner, ACE chair and by members of the committee.

Immediately following the ACE Student Awards, Greenbelt’s District 1 School Board representative Rosalind Johnson provided an update on recent changes to the Prince George’s County School Board districts. Greenbelt will be moving to District 2 for the upcoming elections, she said. She thus said farewell to the city. A new school board districting plan approved in 2009 will join Greenbelt, Berwyn Heights, New Carrollton, Glenn Dale, Lanham and Seabrook in District 2.

## Legislative Wrap-up

The next item, a legislative wrap-up, described the just-completed 2010 Maryland General Assembly session in Annapolis. State Senator Paul Pinsky led off, describing the session as “grueling,” with lots of cuts. Among highlights were prohibition on using a cell phone while driving in Maryland, a State initiative to stem gang violence and a new energy program he referred to as “Net Metering,” that promotes the installation of solar panels on buildings such as warehouses and churches with a relatively low energy consumption profile, thus generating excess energy to be metered back to the overall energy grid.

The senator’s list of “holding on to things,” included maintaining the Thornton Commission formulas for education spending, the defeat of proposals to turn the cost of county employee pension benefits back to the counties and an important change to the timing of setting formulas in state education funding to provide a more level distribution between wealthy and not-so-wealthy counties.

State Delegate Anne Healey noted legislation for local jurisdictions which will provide a tax credit for urban agriculture and State Highway Administration commitments to build sidewalks in transit areas.

State Delegate Tawanna Gaines described efforts by the General Assembly to evaluate a more equitable distribution of the State Highway User Fund. She

also noted success in increasing funds for Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts.

State Delegate Justin Ross noted legislative efforts, along with those of the School Board and county, in securing committed funding for a new Greenbelt Middle School; efforts to create jobs in Prince George’s County through state funding in biotechnology and stem-cell research and the specific inclusion of cooperatives in legislation providing tax credits for “Sustainability Communities.”

## New Truck

In one of the few business items on the agenda, council unanimously approved a low bid offer of \$144,022 for purchase of a new refuse/recycling truck to replace a 2001 vehicle that is now experiencing costly repairs. Public Works Director Kenny Hall said efforts by the department to find suitable alternative fuel vehicles of this size had not been successful. He expected the salvage value of the 2001 vehicle to be replaced would be approximately \$18-20,000.

Another business item was the annual selection by council of a financial auditing firm for performing the FY10 audit for the city. City Manager Michael McLaughlin advised council that staff does not make a recommendation since the auditor reviews financial records maintained by city staff. He noted the current audit firm Clifton Gunderson LLP has performed the audit for the most recent five fiscal years and that staff consider them almost uniquely qualified for conducting audits of public bodies of Greenbelt’s size and that they have offered their services for the FY10 audit for a reduced fee, \$35,000, down from \$40,500 a year ago.

Council unanimously approved that Clifton Gunderson be retained for the FY10 audit and that staff consider developing of a request for proposals for the FY11 audit from qualified firms.

Regarding an item added to the night’s agenda, council briefly discussed the possible issuance of temporary “Night Club” licenses for restaurants in Prince George’s County, pursuant to recently enacted legislation in Annapolis. Councilmembers are concerned that some restaurants in Greenbelt may take advantage of the new licensing opportunity to offer entertainment. In light of recent events at the TGI Friday’s restaurant at the Golden Triangle, council wanted to be prepared if there were requests for such licenses. They agreed to prepare a letter to the Prince George’s County Board of License Commissioners asking that Greenbelt be notified when such requests are made for establishments in the City.

# BARC Field Day Is Saturday, June 5

The Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) will host a Field Day on Saturday, June 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. where cutting-edge science and the big machinery of farming – tractors, plows and more – will be on display. This year’s event also celebrates BARC’s 100th anniversary.

Displays about BARC research cover all aspects of agriculture, many with interactive activities, games and demonstrations for children and adults. BARC research ranges from enhancing the flavor of berries to keeping watersheds healthy, ensuring the safety and quality of meat, growing crops and gardens more sustainably and even reducing the odor from manure. Look for hay rides, exhibits featuring live animals and the famous USDA Beagle Brigade, those cute-but-nosey canines that work at airports to help protect American agriculture from foreign pests and diseases. Power Panther, a USDA mascot, will be on hand to motivate children and their caregivers to eat healthy and be active. Children’s readings at the National Agricultural Library located across Route 1 from BARC also will be held throughout the day.

Picnic lunches and other light refreshments will be on sale during the field day. Signing for the hearing impaired and a handicapped access van will also be available. All events and games are free and ample parking is available.

BARC is located at 10300 Baltimore Avenue in Beltsville just north of the College Park/Laurel Beltway exit.

For more information call 301-504-8800 or visit <http://www.ars.usda.gov/ba/field-day>.

# BARC Field Day Walking Event

The Greenbelt Walking Club is sponsoring a 5K and 10K walk in conjunction with the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) Public Field Day on Saturday, June 5. The public field day will be held on the other side of Route 1 across from the National Agricultural Library. Register for the walk anytime between 8 a.m. and noon and finish the walk by 3 p.m. The start location is in the lobby of Building 003 and parking is free.

There is no fee unless IVV (International Volkssport Verband, International Volkssport Federation) credit for event or distance is required. For additional information call Salva Holloman 301-937-3549.

# Free Mid-Week Bird Walks

Free Mid-Week Spring Bird Walks on the Luther Goldman Birding Trail will be held on Thursdays, June 3 and 17 at 6 p.m., hosted by the Prince George’s Audubon Society. Meet in the parking lot at Lake Artemesia, Berwyn Road and Balew Avenue in Berwyn Heights. The walk is for all levels of people interested in birds and birding. Binoculars are recommended. For more information call 301-459-3375.

# GHI Members Were Startled By Report of Embezzlement

by Jim Link

Over 200 schmoozing residents crowded into the Greenbelt Community Center gymnasium on May 19, primarily to elect new members of the Board of Directors and the Audit Committee at the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. annual meeting.

The evening began with a somber surprise when President Suzanne Agans informed the crowd that GHI had thwarted an employee’s attempt to embezzle \$35,900. Despite a thorough vetting process, GHI had failed to uncover her prior criminal record out of state. An arrest is imminent; the money will be recovered, Agans assured the crowd.

All candidates for election gave carefully crafted speeches. The winners for the Audit Committee were Chuck Hess and Dianne Wilkerson. Hess said he was a CPA here for 25 years and promised to speak less than one minute.

He kept his promise and won another year’s term with 118 votes. Wilkerson promised to give her best for the Audit Committee though the work is “not glamorous.” She won with 125 votes.

Winning candidates for board membership were Ed James (121 votes), a Greenbelt resident since 1977, who said, “I don’t intend to leave”; Diane McFadden (109 votes), who said she is “here for life” in the wonderful community of Greenbelt; David Morse (110 votes), who asserted that Greenbelt residents “are joined by a long, rich history in the past, present and future”; and Irv Wartel (115 votes), a recent retiree, who said, “I am raring to go” and that we need to tailor “yesterday’s values for today’s living.”

A total of 135 residents voted, according to Joan Krob of GHI’s Member Services.

The three door prize winners were Claude Aubert, Cathy Hall and Michael Hartman, each of whom collected a \$100 credit on their GHI Co-op fee.

It was an evening saturated with winners: Amy Alford, Doris Kirschbaum, Michael Reinsel and Daniel Kahn each won a \$25 gift certificate from the New Deal Café. Jane Menis, Karen Kilborn, Beverly Dziduch and Frank DeBernardo each won a \$25 gift certificate from the Co-op Supermarket.

# City’s Birthday, Peace Are Artful Afternoon Themes

The next Artful Afternoon will be held on Sunday, June 6 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center and will celebrate the city’s 73rd anniversary and Peace Month with arts, crafts, local history and music.

From 1 to 3 p.m. creative hands will be busy with a variety of free craft activities. Transform plastic bags into whimsical flowers with the Greenbelt Museum. White and pale green bags will be available; participants are encouraged to bring clean, dry plastic bags in other colors, with or without printing, for use in this project. The Prince George’s County Peace and Justice Coalition will lead a variety of peace-themed art activities including drawing projects and paper crane folding.

## Art

Artful Afternoon is an opportunity to meet local artists and see their latest work. The Art Gallery will host a reception from 1:30 to 3 p.m. for the new exhibit “Fibonacci: A Sculptural Installation by Alexandra Zealand” on display through June 11. Zealand creates unique installations using natural materials, in this case orange peels. There is more information about the artist at [www.alexzealand.blogspot.com](http://www.alexzealand.blogspot.com).

Attendees can also visit the studios of the Community Center’s nine artists-in-residence during the Artful Afternoon open house and sale from 1 to 4. Work on display includes ceramic art tile, functional pottery, jewelry, fiber arts, paintings, collage and more.

## Concert

Greenbelt’s anniversary celebration includes performing arts as well as visual arts, with a 3 p.m. performance music lovers



will enjoy by the Greenbelt Concert Band to include The Greenbelt March.

Theater lovers can enter a free drawing to win

tickets to a performance of their choice at the Greenbelt Arts Center, a community black box theater located under the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy in Roosevelt Center. Entries are being accepted now through 2:30 p.m. on June 6 outside the Art Gallery at the Community Center.

## Museum Open

Artful Afternoons are also an opportunity to visit the historic home operated by the Greenbelt Museum. Guided tours are available from 1 to 5 p.m. for a nominal fee (or free with museum membership). Learn about the history of Greenbelt and city life in the 1930s and 1940s. The home is located across the street from the Community Center at 10-B Crescent Road. Visitors can support the museum’s educational outreach and help keep the Greenbelt story alive by volunteering, becoming members, giving a gift membership or even by making purchases at the museum gift shop.

## Greenbelt Day

Artful Afternoon is one of several programs that will take place over the Greenbelt Day Weekend from June 4 to 6. A brochure is available at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov) with information about all the activities including a Youth Sprint Triathlon, youth baseball, a family heath fair, a workshop on “Memory and the Brain,” a U.S. naturalization ceremony and more.

For additional information about City of Greenbelt arts programs visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts) or call 240-542-2057.

## Warning: Children Must Be Supervised

The Greenbelt Community Center and the Greenbelt Museum welcome visitors of all ages. Both are happy to be a part of children’s early gallery and museum-going experience and eager to help prepare them for a lifetime of cultural enjoyment. They ask that children be supervised closely in the art gallery, artist studios and museum house, observing the “look but don’t touch” rule and holding their hands as necessary.

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